







*Town Reports*

*March 1, 1884*

STATEMENTS

OF

ACCOUNTS

OF THE

New Hampshire  
STATE LIBRARY,  
JUN 16 1896

No.....

Town of Acworth,

AS EXHIBITED

By the Selectmen,

FOR THE

YEAR ENDING MARCH 1, 1884.

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NEWPORT:

PRINTED BY BARTON & WHEELER:

1884.

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**Boot & Shoe Parlor**

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Newport, N. H., Mar. 1884.

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OF  
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# STATEMENT.

## ORDERS TO PAY NOTES AND INTERESTS.

1883.

Mar. 31.	Order to Lusina S. Crosby to pay interest on note,	\$48.96
	Order to C. M. Woodbury to pay interest on note,	108.12

1884.

Jan. 5.	Order to John Graham to pay interest on note,	95.11
	Order to Nathan Adams, to pay note in full,	106.03
	Order to M. D. Grant, to pay interest on notes,	8.40
	Order to Thankful O. Heard to pay interest on notes,	3.50
	Order to E. P. Heard, to pay interest on notes,	28.41
	Order to L. E. Holden, to pay interest on notes,	32.44
	Order to Daniel Nye, to pay interest on notes,	59.57
	Order to Belinda Osgood, to pay note in full,	108.36
	Order to Samuel Harding, to pay interest on note,	73.98
	Order to Sylvester Symonds, to pay interest on note,	20.00
	Order to E. A. Clark to pay note and interest,	32.78
	Order to M. J. D. Houston, to pay interest on note,	7.00
	Order to C. A. Kennedy to pay note and interest,	44.15
	Order to E. L. Kennedy, to pay note and interest,	44.15

Jan. 5.	Order to J. A. Wood, to pay note and interest	\$330.36
	Order to J. A. Wood to pay interest on note,	137.00
Feb. 23.	Order to S. O. Taylor, to pay note and interest,	40.95
Feb. 29.	Order to Mary A. Morse, to pay note and interest,	55.17
	Order to Samuel Harding, to pay note in part,	5.14
	Total,	<hr/> \$1,389.58

## ORDERS FOR BREAKING ROADS.

1883.

Mar. 31,	Order to G. W. Leighton, for breaking roads, the past winter,	\$6.20
	“ C. W. Parks, for breaking roads in Dist. No. 23,	11.41
	Jonathan Woodbury, breaking roads in Dist. No. 9,	2.25
Apr. 11.	J. A. Allen, breaking roads, in Dist. No. 16,	16.60
“ 14.	J. A. Dickey, breaking roads, in Dist. No. 19,	3.00
17.	J. T. Mitchell, breaking roads in Dist. No. 12,	21.38
18.	C. E. Murdough, breaking roads in Dist. No. 1,	23.64
	H. D. Wallace, breaking roads in Dist. No. 9,	16.75
	M. D. Gay, breaking roads in Dist. Nos. 2 and 8,	10.82
21.	M. W. Eaton, breaking roads in Dist. No. 7,	22.88
	H. G. Perham, breaking roads in March last,	10.00
May 2.	M. D. Clark, breaking roads in 1882 and 1883,	4.39
5.	Marcellus Morse, breaking roads in Dist. No. 4,	5.40



May 12.	W. E. Harris, breaking roads in Dist. No. 3,	\$17.63
27.	Horace Dexter, breaking roads and cash paid,	4.70
June 23.	A. G. Graham, breaking roads and put- ting in sluice,	7.20
July 7.	Samuel Harding, breaking roads in Dist. No. 31,	18.73
	F. H. McLaughlin, breaking roads in Dist. No. 29,	7.50
	Henry A. Clark, breaking roads in Dist. No. 17,	9.42
	J. S. Symonds, breaking roads in Dist. No. 13,	4.20
Aug. 25.	Marcellus Morse, breaking roads in Dist. No. 4,	13.20
	J. B. Crossett, breaking roads in Dist. No. 18,	8.85
	Robert Kennedy, breaking roads in Dist. No. 24,	3.30
	H. N. Hayward breaking roads and cash paid,	20.87
	C. J. Davis, breaking roads in Dist. No. 4,	2.32
	Albert Buswell, breaking roads in Dist. No. 6.	5.63
Sept. 1.	M. P. Thornton, breaking roads and cash paid,	16.00
	Samuel Slader, breaking roads and cash paid,	15.85
Dec. 1.	Marcellus Morse, breaking roads in Dist. No. 4,	3.00
	H. L. Piper, breaking roads in Dist. No. 11,	4.80
	G. W. Lathrop, breaking roads,	3.00
	J. B. Tracy, breaking roads in Dist. No. 10,	7.67
	Amasa Lincoln, breaking roads in Dist. No. 27,	4.75

1884.		
Jan. 23.	Luther F. Davis, breaking roads,	\$1.50
Feb. 23.	W. H. Barney, breaking roads in Dist. No. 5,	3.15
28.	C. C. Carr, breaking roads in Dist. No. 31,	5.30
	S. A. Reed, breaking roads and cash paid,	5.10
	A. A. Matthewson, breaking roads,	2.78
	Francis Ellenwood, " "	19.00
	Geo. Bailey, breaking roads in Dist. No. 2,	4.15
29.	C. J. Davis, breaking roads in Dist. No. 4,	1.62
	M. P. Thornton, breaking roads in Dist. No. 28,	5.05
	W. C. Neal, breaking roads in Dist. No. 1,	4.80
	C. E. Gay, breaking roads in Dist. No. 9,	8.40
	Fred S. Gould, breaking roads in Dist. No. 22,	6.15
	Jona. F. Mitchell, breaking roads in Dist. No. 12,	8.96
	Henry Heard for breaking roads,	2.50
	J. A. Dickey, " "	3.00
	E. A. Kingsbury, " "	14.14
	D. C. Walker,	11.05
		<hr/>
		\$439.89

#### ORDERS TO REPAIR ROADS AND BRIDGES.

1883		
March 31.	Order to John Fiske for lumber to repair near his house,	\$10.66
July 7.	John H. Clark for pay for McKeen Iron Bridge,	888.90
	" for work,	123.49
Aug. 25.	J. B. Crossett, for drawing lumber,	2.25
	A. G. Graham, for repairing road at Osgood slide,	23.50

Aug. 25.	C. A. Milliken, work at Osgood slide,	\$11.00
	A. G. Graham, lumber,       “	9.00
	Roger Smith, for labor,	2.00
Sept. 1.	S. O. Brackett, work self and team on Perham & Huntley bridges,	14.48
Dec. 1.	George Hatch, for lumber for use of highway,	10.50
	Asa Pratt, lumber for Perham bridge,	8.82
	J. W. Fiske, for work near McKeen bridge,	9.25
	M. D. Clark, repairing road and cash paid,	9.10
	S. O. Brackett, work self and team near McKeen bridge,	24.00
	S. A. Reed,       “       “	43.25
	Daniel Nye, for work and lumber for bridges,	21.69
	H. G. Perham,       “	7.39
	G. W. Leighton, for putting up railing,	24.00
	Roswell Walker, grading road and putting up railing,	33.00
	W. C. Neal, for work on roads and bridges,	9.25
	J. S. Gove, for lumber and repairing sluice,	1.06
Dec. 8.	R. S. Morrison, for bridge plank,	16.02
1884.		
Jan. 5.	S. S. King, for putting up railing near G. P. Dickey's,	4.00
	J. N. Davis, work and cash paid to re- pair highway,	10.77
Feb. 23.	R. S. Morrison, for plank for bridges,	33.48
29.	John Symonds, repairing road in Dis. No. 13,	7.05
	C. J. Davis, work on Osgood slide,	3.00
	E. A. Kingsbury repairing road,	3.00

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\$1363.91



## ORDERS FOR SUPPORT OF PAUPERS.

1883.

March 31.	Order to C. J. Davis, cash to support Helen L. Cram at the Insane Asylum for qr. ending March 31,	\$51.49
	Wm. L. Lakin, for keeping Phebe Young, 5 weeks,	10.00
	J. N. Davis, " Fanny Hull, 3 1-7 "	6.28
July 7.	C. J. Davis, cash to support Helen L. Cram, at the Insane Asylum, for qr. ending June 30,	53.91
Aug. 18.	James Russell, for cutting S. W. Blodgett's grass,	14.00
Sept. 1.	W. L. Lakin, for keeping Phebe Young, in part,	30.00
	Samuel Slader, for potatoes for S. W. Blodgett,	2.40
	Betsey J. Clough, keeping Almira C. Clough, 32 weeks,	96.00
	S. W. Blodgett, for " Nancy Sweet, 32 weeks,	24.00
Oct. 10.	C. J. Davis, cash to support Helen L. Cram, at Insane Asylum, quarter ending Sept. 30,	54.44
	Betsey J. Clough, for keeping Lottie M. Towle, 14 weeks,	45.50
Dec. 1.	W. L. Lakin, keeping Phebe Young, in part,	35.00
31	C. A. Allen, for doctoring S. W. Blodgett and N. Sweet,	3.00
1884. Jan. 5.	Wm. Brooks, for goods furnished S. W. Blodgett,	8.13
	Wm. Brooks, for goods furnished Phebe Young and S. W. Blodgett,	6.00
	C. J. Davis, cash to support Helen L. Cram, at Insane Asylum, quar. ending Dec. 31,	53.96
	J. N. Davis, cash paid for board of Laureston Keyes,	2.25

Jan. 22.	Betsey J. Clough, for keeping Almira C. Clough, 20 weeks,	\$60.00
	Susan A. Davis, for making clothes for S. W. Blodgett,	1.50
	James Forsaith, wood and provisions for S. W. Blodgett,	13.96
26.	James Forsaith, wood for S. W. Blodgett,	11.25
	S. W. Blodgett, for keeping Nancy Sweet, 20 weeks,	15.00
Feb. 29.	J. N. Davis, for provisions for S. W. Blodgett,	5.54
	Mary Burnham, for keeping Fanny Hull, 2 weeks,	4.00
	Mary Burnham, for keeping Fanny Hull, 48 weeks,	96.0
		<hr/>
Amount received from County for support of Coun- ty paupers,		329.35
		<hr/>
Cost of supporting town paupers the past year,		\$374 26

#### ORDERS FOR MISCELLANEOUS PURPOSES.

1883.

Mar. 13.	Order to J. N. Davis for printing Town Re- ports,	\$18.10
Apr. 24.	C. A. Allen, for part of Literary Fund for 1882,	20.00
Aug. 20.	Wesley M. Huntley, for damage on Thayer Brook road,	20.00
25.	Rob't Kennedy, for watering trough,	3.00
Oct. 10.	J. N. Davis, school house tax in Dist. No. 6,	77.00
Dec. 1.	M. P. Thornton, for repairing scraper,	4.50
	C. J. Davis, " " "	3.90
	W. C. Neal, for _righting up monu- ments in cemetery,	19.00
8.	R. S. Morrison, for watering trough,	3.00
	Norris Lufkin, for being overtaxed,	3.36
	W. C. Neal, paid bounty on crows,	9.30

Dec. 8.	C. J. Davis, bounty on crows,	\$.	50
	M. W. Gassett, damage to cow on highway,		20.00
21.	Dr. C. A. Allen, for returning births and deaths,		5.75
1884.			
Jan. 5.	G. G. Dickey, for making and lettering guide boards,		1.50
	J. N. Davis, paid for books and stationery,		4.67
	J. N. Davis, for bounty on crows,		9.00
22.	H. A. Moore, for abatement of A. K. Howard's tax for 1877,		11.48
23.	J. H. Clark, for services as bridge ag't,		8.00
Feb. 28.	William Brooks, repairing Town Hall,		1.58
	E. L. Sarsons, for abatement of taxes,		15.12
	E. L. Sarsons, " "		1.66
	Dr. C. A. Allen, for returning births and deaths,		1.25
	C. J. Davis, paid E. L. Cushing, counsel fee,		2.00
	J. N. Davis, paid Ira Colby, counsel fee,		10.00
	G. W. Potter, for tolling bells,		10.00
29.	W. C. Neal, bounty on woodchucks,		.80
	Henry Heard, damage to sheep by dogs,		10.00
			<hr/>
			\$294.47
	Dog tax for 1883,	\$64.00	
	Amount of damage to sheep by dogs,	10.00	
			<hr/>
	Balance in favor of the dogs,	\$54.00	

## ORDERS TO PAY TOWN OFFICERS.

1883.			
Aug. 25.	Order to W. C. Neal, for services as selectman in part,	\$25.00	
Dec. 1.	W. C. Neal, services as sexton in part,	61.00	
1884.			
Feb. 28.	C. J. Davis, services as selectman,	67.50	
	J. N. Davis, " "	60.00	



Feb. 28.	W. C. Neal, bal. services as selectman,	\$28.75
	W. C. Neal, bal. services as sexton,	19.60
	John Graham, services as treas.,	25.00
	Wm. Brooks, services as town clerk,	25.00
	C. J. Davis, overseer of the poor,	9.25
	J. N. Davis,                   “	18.75
	W. C. Neal,                   “	4.80
	C. A. Allen, sup't. of schools,	50.00
	J. H. Dickey, Auditor,	6.00
	E. L. Sarsons, collector of taxes,	50.00
	Total,	<u>\$451.65</u>

## RECAPITULATION.

Amount of orders drawn to pay notes and interests,	\$1,389.58
“                   “                   Breaking roads,	439.89
Repairing roads and	
bridges,	1,363.91
Support of paupers,	703.61
Miscellaneous purposes,	294.47
Town officers,	451.65
Support of schools,	1,470.70
Highway Receipts returned,	39.84
Whole amount of orders,	<u>\$6,153.60</u>

## ASSETS.

Amount in the treasury, March 1, 1883,	\$322.53
1883.	
Apr. 14. Cash of E. L. Sarsons, interest on taxes for	
1882,	3.80
Received of selectmen, road tax for 1882,	3.17
Borrowed of S. O. Taylor,	40.00
Amount of tax bills for 1883, less State	
and County tax,	\$4,690.55
June 16. Borrowed of J. S. Gassett,	210.00
“                   Helen M. Merrill,	130.00
July 5. Received on highway taxes,	4.11
Sept. 6. From County for support of paupers,	120.00
12. From State for bounty on crows,	39.90

1884.		
Jan. 15.	Highway taxes not worked in 1882,	\$2.22
16.	Savings Bank tax from state,	1103.82
	Literary Fund,	111.69
30.	From County for support of paupers,	209.35
Feb. 28.	Received of D. Whipple for grass,	2.00
	Received of E. L. Sarsons, interest on taxes for 1883,	12.30
	School house tax assessed to Stowell and Gassett of Lempster,	1.13
Total,		<hr/> \$7,006.57
Amount of orders deducted,		6,153.65
Balance in the treasury,		<hr/> \$852.92

## LIST OF NOTES OWING BY THE TOWN.

Note to Daniel Nye,	\$282.46
Leavitt Hayward,	200.00
E. P. Heard,	90.00
Daniel Nye,	200.00
S. Symonds,	500.00
S. Harding,	500.00
L. E. Holden,	300.00
John Graham,	2400.00
E. P. Heard,	160.00
M. D. Grant,	140.00
Mary J. D. Houston,	200.00
E. P. Heard,	100.00
Thankful O. Heard,	100.00
M. D. Grant,	100.00
Helen M. Merrill,	130.00
Josephine S. Gassett,	210.00
Lusina S. Crosby,	600.00
C. M. Woodbury,	1325.00
J. A. Wood,	1100.00
Amount of notes,	<hr/> \$8637.46

Estimated interest,	137.72
Amount of notes and interest,	8775.18
Deduct amount now in treasury,	852.92
Present debt of the town,	\$7922.26
Debt reported March 1, 1883,	9078.25
Present debt subtracted,	7922.26
Decrease of debt the past year,	\$1155.99

J. H. DICKEY, Auditor.

Acworth, March 1, 1884.

$$\begin{array}{r}
 \$ 907.75 \\
 852.92 \\
 \hline
 54.83
 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r}
 3.00 \\
 10.00 \\
 \hline
 13.00
 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r}
 96 \\
 \hline
 105.00
 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r}
 105.00 \\
 54.83 \\
 \hline
 159.83
 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r}
 159.83 \\
 54.83 \\
 \hline
 214.66
 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r}
 907.75 \\
 109 \\
 \hline
 798.75 \\
 29.84 \\
 \hline
 828.59
 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r}
 852.92 \\
 828.84 \\
 \hline
 24.08
 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r}
 11.35 \\
 2.03 \\
 10.00 \\
 46 \\
 600 \\
 \hline
 21.84
 \end{array}$$



<i>No. of District</i> .....	<i>Prud. Committee.</i>	<i>Names of Teachers.</i>	<i>Number of terms</i> .....
1	Geo. Bailey.	*Arianna S. Dudley.	1
		" "	2
		" "	3
		†Myrtie B. Symonds.	1
		" "	2
		" "	3
		1 Juliette A. Osgood.	1
		" "	2
		1 Alice E. Poole.	1
		E. Corinne Holden.	2
		1 Anna M. Walker.	1
		2 Clara B. Iufkin.	2
2	C. C. Carr.		
3	E. A. Kingsbury.		
4	F. L. Gould.		

5 J. Woodbury.	1 Clara B. Lufkin.	8	7	6	8	5.4	7.9	2	3	1	21	\$20.	\$73.08
6 Mrs. H. L. Piper	2 " "	6.2	8	6.6	6.2	.94	.94	3	2	0	9	20.	
8 Asa Pratt.	1 Jennie C. Jameson.	7	5	5	5	1.00	1.00	5	3	2	30	16.	70.20
9 G. W. Buss.	2 Lenna J. Dickey.	9.6	5	3.5	3.5	1.00	1.00	8	2	1	21	16.	
	2 Vienna D. Mack.	8	12	11.7	10.9	.90	.90	5	3	0	39	15.12	147.64
	3 Nellie M. Atwood.	7	6	18	17	16	.94	6	3	0	23	22.	
	1 Lizzie A. Brown.	8.8	16	16	15.3	.96	.96	8	2	0	32	26.	
	2 " "	7.8	9	8.5	8.5	1.00	1.00	9	2	0	3	18.	83.14 \$48.00
	3 Mary E. Davis.	8	10	9	9	1.00	1.00	10	2	0	6	20.	
10 J. A. Allen, Jr.	1 Laura A. Hawkins.	8	14	14	13	.92	.92	8	2	1	15	22.	
	2 Mary L. Upton.	9	10	9.3	8.9	.90	.90	5	3	0	19	12	91.55
	3 Vienna D. Mack.	7	11	10.8	10.4	.97	.97	4	2	1	33	18.	
11 G. R. Cummings.	1 †Hattie M. Mordough.	5.8	3	3	2.9	.96	.96	2	2	1	14	20.	
	2 †	9	19	18.3	17.7	.96	.96	10	3	0	34	18.	256.75
	1 §Clara E. Kimball.	10	12	11.4	11	.96	.96	5	2	0	1	10.	
	2 §	10	17	16.4	15.7	.98	.98	3	2	0	27	30.	
12 G. P. Dickey.	1 Etta M. King.	10	31	28.7	26.8	.93	.93	8	2	0	26	36.	
13 C. A. Lewis.	2 Ida J. Greene.	8	7	7	6.9	.98	.98	6	3	0	34	20	80.38 44.00
	1 " "	12.6	11	9.8	9.6	.97	.97	6	2	0	37	22.	
	2 " "	7.8	6	5.7	5.2	.91	.91	4	3	0	29	17.	35.18
	2 " "	7.8	9	8.6	8.5	.98	.98	6	2	0	24	17.	

\*Grammar. †Primary. ‡Grammar.

## ROLL OF HONOR.

The following pupils have not been absent one day during any term which they have attended of the entire school year:

## DISTRICT NO. 1.

Nannie Buswell, Minnie E. Clark, Carrie B. Willard, Gertie M. Chatterton, Lizzie A. Clark, Agnes R. Mitchell, Ida A. Potter, Mary S. Potter, Maria Barraby, Lina S. Dodge, Louise G. Dodge, Mary E. Pettengill, Grace Pettengill, Eva L. Strickland, Belle F. Strickland, Lilla W. Clough, Alonzo B. Chatterton, Willie P. Craig, Milton C. Dodge, Sydney F. Davis, Herbert Howe, Frank A. Pettengill, Charles L. Woodard.

## DISTRICT NO. 2.

Hattie M. Blanchard, Effie A. Clark, Sadie S. King, Lena G. Warner, Blanche I. E. Harris, Fred L. Carr, Newton D. Clark, Willie J. King, Carl E. Smith.

## DISTRICT NO. 3.

Delia F. Kingsbury, Alice A. Forsyth.

## DISTRICT NO. 5.

Minnie A. Smyth, Roy O. Smith.

## DISTRICT NO. 6.

Flora Sarsons, Minnie P. Davis, Charles L. Piper.

## DISTRICT NO. 8.

Fannie A. Merrill, Julian N. Hemphill, Arthur L. Perham, Grant E. Walker.

## DISTRICT NO. 9.

Lillian M. Symonds, Lilla M. Cook, Susie A. Clark, Nellie Morrison, Myrtie E. Reed, Frank A. Metcalf, George E. Symonds, Wm. Ernest Morrison, Lewis E. Fletcher, Edward H. Reed.

## DISTRICT NO. 10.

Nora E. Wells, Mattie L. Matthewson, Addie M. Brackett

## DISTRICT NO. 11.

Gertie G. Cummings, Bertha M. Graham, Nellie I. Crosset, Frank Cummings, Ernest G. Emerson, Frank Reed, Elroy Allen, Osmond Barney, Eugene E. Crosset.

## DISTRICT NO. 12.

Mary J. Dickey, Lora E. Newton, Annie D. Johnson, Addie E. King, Charles S. King, Carl W. Grant, Elmer E. Newton, Willie L. Gowen.



## DISTRICT NO. 13.

Nellie F. McLaughlin, Eva E. McLaughlin, Ada M. Norrington  
John C. McLaughlin.

Absent one day on account of sickness:

Jennie E. Potter, Gertrude L. Fletcher, Dora V. Reed, Mertie  
Matthewson, Grace Webster, Jessie Morrison, Myrtie Reed, Ros-  
coe H. Hull, Luther Clough, Carl Buswell, Walter Slader, Frank  
B. Kingsbury, Byron D. Reed, Robert Bracket.

## REMARKS.

In making this, my seventh and last report of the schools of Acworth, I have decided to depart from the customary routine of reporting by districts, and instead, have arranged all the names of committees and teachers, with number of terms, length taught, attendance, wages of teachers, and other facts of importance, in the form of a table which will show at a glance the comparative standing of all the schools in town. Having thus given the statistical facts in a convenient form, I shall speak of the schools as an entirety believing that no good reason can be shown why teachers should be criticised in their work any more than other public servants.

It has been my aim the past year to secure uniformity in the studies taught, in the methods of teaching, and the general management of the schools. It has been easier to do this since 23 of 33 terms of school have been taught by teachers with former experience in Acworth schools, and hence the result has been eminently satisfactory.

In both grammar and primary schools in Nos. 1 and 11, as well as Nos. 2, 5, 6 and 13, the same teachers have been employed during the entire year. In number 9 the same teacher taught two successive terms, and in Nos. 4, 8, and 12, one or both terms were taught by teachers who had previously taught in the same district.

For the 33 terms of school only 19 different teachers have been employed, the fewest number of any year since my connection with Acworth schools, and I can only repeat what was said last year, that the fewer the number of different teachers the better the schools.

While the whole number of pupils enrolled, and the average length of schools are a trifle less than last year, the percentage of daily attendance is higher than ever before, being 100 per cent

or perfect, for eight different terms, in Nos. 1, 2, 4, 6 and 9 (see table), and an average of 93 per cent for all the other terms.

Comparing the studies pursued and the progress made with one year ago, I find that number 1 is the only district where Latin has been taught, and Nos. 1, 2, 8, 9, and 11, the only districts where pupils have taken the so-called "higher branches" as algebra, physiology, philosophy, etc.

The general advancement in arithmetic has been better than last year, partly, no doubt, because of the greater familiarity with the text book used, and in part owing to better methods of instruction.

Reading and penmanship have been taken in every school and with about the same success as usual. In spelling, the "blanks" for writing lessons have been used with all advanced classes, and the improvement has been very marked in most cases. In Geography, I have encouraged the frequent use of the outline maps, as well as map drawing, both upon blackboard and paper, and the results are certainly worthy of continued trial of the same methods. In grammar, the art of composition and analysis of sentences have been made to go hand in hand with the set rules of the book, and, I believe more real progress has been made in this branch than in any other. U. S. History has been taken in a few of the schools, but not as generally as could be desired. Physiology has been studied by four pupils, and three of the four have been teachers. In accordance with the new law, physiology is to become a regular study in all schools with advanced pupils, and teachers for the coming year are expected to be examined in that branch the same as in arithmetic or grammar.

Having thus briefly reviewed the general progress of the schools, I would say that in no school has there been an entire want of success, although the difference in degree of success must always vary as do temperaments in individuals. The only terms that I would class as unfortunate rather than unsuccessful, were the second term in No. 8, and the third term in No. 10, and in both cases I am inclined to believe that teacher, pupils and parents ought each to bear some portion of the blame. In no other district have I learned of any fault worthy of mention. In No. 2, I believe it would have been better to have divided the long term of 15 weeks into shorter ones, and in No. 4 I think the best interests of the two pupils who attended the school would have been advanced if

the school money had been given to No. 1 and both pupils had attended that school.

As a rule, the teachers employed the past year have been competent, most of them experienced, and all of them ready and willing to work. As a result of the series of teachers' meetings held during the summer, close system of methods of government and instruction were followed with decided advantage to the schools.

The pupils have never been more obedient, and painstaking, and the interest shown by the parents and citizens seems to be increasing each and every year.

As usual, new maps and apparatus, including a reading chart in No. 1, have been added the present year, while in No. 6 one of the most pleasant, convenient, well finished, and well furnished school houses in town, replaces the gloomy and almost untenable building of one year ago.

Having thus given as accurate an idea as possible of the progress and general condition of the schools of Acworth during the past year, I may be pardoned in closing my final report if I seem egotistical and briefly review the work done during the seven years you have honored me with the best office in your power to bestow.

When first called to take charge of the schools in town, I found every school room devoid of all aids in teaching, there being no good blackboards, no erasers, no maps, no globes, no dictionaries, nothing save desks and bare walls. No. 2 alone had a set of outline maps. Every other district was entirely destitute. I found the text books were by various authors, and many of them out of date and comparatively worthless. Penmanship was scarcely taught at all, and system was everywhere lacking. Three of the school houses were unfit for use, and others were in a bad condition. This was the condition of things eight years ago. How is it to-day? Three worthless houses have been rebuilt, and are models of neatness and convenience. Six of the remaining nine school houses have been remodeled, painted and otherwise improved. All the blackboards have been slated and new ones added, with plenty of good erasers. Wall maps adorn every school room—nine districts having complete sets, and the other three partial ones. Every school room has a globe, and most, if not all, have dictionaries, numeral frames, metric rules, text books for teachers, &c., &c.

Penmanship has been made a regular study, and the neatness and



beauty of some of the copy books, used by quite young pupils would surprise those who have always supposed that penmanship was only to be taken by advanced scholars.

The latest and best text books have been introduced, and the same author universally used. Schools in Nos. 1 and 11 have been graded as far as possible, and in all the other districts a systematized order of studies has been followed as far as it was found practical to do so. A thorough system of marking in scholarship and deportment has been employed by means of school cards, and for three successive summers teachers' meetings have been held.

There has been a steady improvement in attendance until the present year, in which 8 of 33 or nearly *one-fourth* the terms of school have been without a single absent mark (other than non-membership.)

With this rapid glance at what has been accomplished, and a comparison of our schools with those of like towns I cannot but feel a just pride in having been instrumental in some degree in so great a change, and it is with a double source of pain and pleasure that I now yield my wand of office to other hands—pleasure, that I have been the humble means of raising the standard of our schools and regret to feel that 200 pupils whose faces have become as familiar to me as those of my own children, will no longer meet me as an older teacher and friend, but will seek advice from other sources.

To my successor I can only urge the importance of continuing the work now well begun, letting no year close without the record having been made of some useful thing done.

With many thanks for the efficient aid rendered me by the different prudential committees, the ready willingness of the teachers to act upon my advice in all things pertaining to school matters, and the respect ever shown me by the pupils, I bid adieu to the schools of Acworth, wishing them a hearty God-speed, and sincerely hoping they may find a successor who can give them the undivided attention so necessary to their welfare, and which is impossible for one whose professional duties call for every moment of his time.

CARL A. ALLEN, Supt. of Schools.

Acworth, N. H., Feb. 28, 1884.





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